

**DRAFT OF CONSTITUTION FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES**  
based on present Ground Rules

The Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council is a non-partisan, cross-representative, coordinating organization of the Clinton Hill area - the section of Newark bounded by Irvington on the west Elizabeth Avenue on the east, Arden Avenue and Rose Terrace on the north, and Hawthorne Avenue on the south,--and is affiliated with the Associated Community Councils of Newark.

**I. Aims and purposes.**

- a) To build a community spirit of cooperation and good will.
- b) To improve neighborhood standards and advance the welfare of the community, including its housing, educational, and recreational facilities.
- c) To gather and spread information on Clinton Hill's resources.
- d) To develop wholesome patterns among its youth.
- e) To welcome new neighbors.
- f) To assist with and coordinate activities among individuals and groups sharing its aims.

**II. Membership is open to:**

- a) Individual residents of Clinton Hill who agree with the aims and purposes of the Council. Such persons may become members of the Council upon payment of dues as set by the Executive Board. If a street or block branch of the Council exists near their residence, they shall affiliate with that branch and participate in its activities.
- b) Institutions and organizations of a non-partisan nature, indigenous to Clinton Hill, who agree with the aims and purposes of the Council. They may be civic, religious, welfare, tenant, street, householder, fraternal, business, or similar in nature. Such institutions become members upon approval of the Executive Board and payment of dues. Institutions and organizations shall choose two delegates to represent them at council Executive Board meetings.
- c) Persons whose occupation, business, or profession is centered in Clinton Hill. They may become members upon payment of dues as set by the Executive Board.

**III. Street-block branches.**

When Council members reside on a street, block, or blocks of a street within the defined Clinton Hill area, in such numbers as the Executive Board shall deem adequate, they shall form themselves into a branch of the Council. Branches handle problems which concern their particular street or blocks, resolvable through the cooperative efforts of the residents of those blocks. Branches shall annually elect a chairman, vice-chairman, and recorder, and such other officers as they deem necessary; and shall be represented at Executive Committee and Block Steering Committee meetings by the chairman and one elected delegate. Branches refer to the Council for action those problems which cannot be resolved on a block level. The Council in its turn may refer

programs requiring coordinated city-wide support to the Associated Community Councils of Newark or such other non-partisan organizations as it may deem necessary.

IV. Council officers.

Officers shall be a President, at least four vice-presidents, a Treasurer, a Recorder, and a Corresponding Secretary. Officers shall be elected every two years.

V. Executive Committee

There shall be an Executive Committee to include the Council officers and chairman of the Standing Committees: Recreation, Block Steering, Block Organizing, Zoning, Legal, Housing, Welfare and Welfare, Education, Code Enforcement, Planning, Budget and Finance, Health and Sanitation, Communications, Program, and Public Affairs. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month and shall conduct the affairs of the Council.

VI. Executive Board

There shall be an Executive Board to include two delegates from each institution or organization, two delegates from each street or block branch, and the elected officers. The Executive Board shall decide Council policy and shall meet at least once every two months.

VII. Advisory Board

There shall be an Advisory Board consisting of the original sponsors of the Council.

VIII. Election of officers

Every two years, at least three months before the January meeting, the president shall appoint with the approval of the Executive Board a nominating committee of at least five members who will submit a recommended slate for approval to the Council. One ballot returnable before the January meeting shall be mailed to each paid up member. Space on the ballot shall be provided for write-in nominations.

IX. Standing Committees

Chairmen of Standing Committees may be appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Board or be elected by committee members and approved by the Executive Board.

X. Amendment

This Constitution may be amended by the Executive Board at its regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of approval.

XI. Effective date of this Constitution

This Constitution shall become effective upon approval by the Executive Board.